

INTRODUCTION

What are community facilities?

Basically, community facilities are the services that a community has decided it needs in order to provide a safe, orderly, and healthy place to live. For the most part, the community has also decided that these services can best be provided collectively through the local town and county governments. Some examples of community facilities are fire and police protection, water system, sanitary sewerage, storm sewerage, refuse collection and disposal, hospital and other health facilities, school facilities, recreation facilities, and libraries.

Who provides community facilities?

The great majority of Southern Pines' community facilities are provided by the town government. Others are provided by Moore County and the State of North Carolina. A few, such as electricity and hospitals, are provided by private organizations.

Why plan for community facilities?

There are several good reasons Southern Pines should plan in advance for its community facilities. The first of these reasons is related to demand for the community facilities. Each year there are more people in Southern Pines to use these services. More people mean a greater demand for services. The second reason is related to the rising standard of living. As people's desire for more and better services and goods increases in the private sector, so also their desire for more and better public facilities increases. As an example, people once used water just for drinking, cooking, and washing. Today, many families use water for those purposes and also for washing automobiles, sprinkling lawns, air conditioning, and swimming pools.

The third important reason it is important to plan for community facilities has to do with cost. Services such as water, sewer, and streets are designed to be used for many years,